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KDHE Submits Documentation for Accreditation

by the Communications Office, KDHE



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has been working towards becoming an accredited public health department through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) since 2013. Accreditation is achieved by demonstrating the agency's performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidence based standards. This process seeks to advance quality and performance within public health departments of all types across the U.S. Susan Mosier, M.D., MBA, FACS, Secretary and State Health Officer, KDHE, submitted the documentation, along with Michael McNulty, Deb Nickels and Cristi Cain, Accreditation Team members, to

PHAB on December 31, 2015. This is a huge step in the public health accreditation process. The next step to becoming an accredited public health department will be a site visit to KDHE offices in 2016. This site visit will be conducted by Public Health Accreditation Board site visitors and will examine the conformance of the documentation submitted to the PHAB Standards and Measures. KDHE will join 12 other state health departments upon receiving accreditation. If you have questions on the KDHE accreditation process please contact Cristi Cain, Director, Local Public Health Program and KDHE Accreditation Coordinator at ccain@kdheks.gov or 785-296-6549.

Regional Public Health Meetings

*by Teri Caudle, Public Health Specialist,
Local Public Health Program, BCHS, KDHE*



The 2016 regional public health meetings are designed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. They also provide the opportunity to network with other administrators and public health professionals. These meetings are planned for the local LHD administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register on KS-TRAIN <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID #1060939.

The agenda includes the following: KDHE Bureau of Family Health Discussion; MCH and Family Planning Staff and KDHE Immunization Program Updates, Policies and Plans; Phil Griffin, Program Section Chief and Regional Immunization Nurses.

The dates and locations are:

- SC Region, Hutchinson – February 3
- SW Region, Garden City – February 10
- NW Region, Oakley – February 11
- NC Region, Beloit – March 2
- NE Region, Topeka – March 8

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov

KDHE Welcomes Goss as Agency Bureau Director and Deputy Director for Public Health

by the Office of Communications, KDHE



Please join Susan Mosier, M.D., MBA, FACS, Secretary and State Health Officer, Kansas Department of Health and Environment in welcoming Ashley Goss as the new Director of the Bureau of Community Health Systems and Deputy Director of Public Health. Ashley began her work in public health 11 years ago with the Finney County Health Department and served as Director of the department for her last six years there. She and her family recently moved to Topeka where she took the position of General Clinic Surgery Manager at St. Francis Tallgrass Surgery Center. Ashley is passionate about public health and looks forward to serving our citizens alongside you.

Chronic Disease Alliance of Kansas Update

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Chronic Disease Alliance of Kansas (CDAK) met in December 2015 to learn about new initiatives related to electronic health records, value-based payment goals, the national quality strategy, collaborating with pharmacists and the Healthy KC initiative. During the meeting the advisory, health systems/quality of care, patient management, primary prevention and provider support committees met to review progress on current strategies and plan for future work. The next in-person meeting will be held in June 2016 to learn about new chronic disease research.

CDAK is a multi-disciplinary group committed to reducing the physical, emotional and financial burden of chronic disease in Kansas. CDAK members include clinical providers, community organizations, public health, academic researchers and individuals working together to reduce the prevalence and impact of chronic disease in Kansas. If you are interested in helping CDAK prevent and control chronic disease in Kansas please join at www.kschronicdisease.org.

2016 Student Opportunities in Public Health

from CDC



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Office of Minority Health and Health Equity (OMHHE) has a webpage for [2016 Student Opportunities in Public Health](#). The OMHHE supports internship opportunities for qualified undergraduate and graduate students to gain meaningful experiences in public health settings. Whether you are looking for a summer internship or a year-long fellowship, the programs provide valuable exposure to a wide range of public health opportunities. CDC also sponsors student opportunities in environmental health, infectious disease, health promotion, informatics and many other public health focus areas. Check out the listing for other student opportunities on the OMHHE webpage.

Nurse Corps Local Repayment Program Applications Available - Deadline February 25



The 2016 [NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program](#) application cycle is now open and will close on February 25, 6:30 p.m. [Click here to apply now](#). The purpose of the NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program is to assist in the recruitment and retention of professional registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses dedicated to working in health care facilities with a critical shortage of nurses, or working as nurse faculty at an eligible school of nursing. The program offers these RNs substantial financial assistance to repay a portion of their qualifying educational loans in exchange for full-time service at either a health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses or at an eligible school of nursing in the case of nurse faculty.

Kansas Nurse Leadership Residency Program Launched



The Kansas Action Coalition (KSAC) is a statewide collaboration to advance and support nursing education, leadership, and practice toward the common goal of improving the health of Kansans. The KSAC is sponsoring a NEW nurse residency program, the Kansas Nurse Leadership Residency program for nurses interested in building their leadership knowledge and skills. Nurses from four diverse practice settings, i.e., Acute Care, Long-Term Care, Public Health, and School are invited to apply to the program.

The project will be offered in four regions of Kansas: Kansas City, Pittsburg, Hays, and Wichita. In each area of the state where the program is offered, nurses from each of the four practice settings will be invited to apply for participation. In each area of the state, two nurses from each practice setting will be selected to participate in the Leadership Residency program.

Following a competitive selection process that includes a statement of commitment from the applicant's organization, nurses selected as Residents will begin the six-month program. The program includes four in-person training sessions – three sessions will be located in the four regions with the final session meeting in Topeka. There are also four online modules. Additional information, the program brochure, and link to the online application are available at the Kansas Action Coalition website: <http://www.kansasactioncoalition.com/knlr.html>. KNLR begins soon! If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Nancy Meek, Project Manager, at nkaranja-meek@kumc.edu.

February is Lactose Intolerance Awareness Month

by Marley Sugar, Midwest Dairy Council



Midwest Dairy Council would like to bring attention to a group of resources to help health educators teach about [lactose intolerance](#). Four videos can be found on Midwest Dairy Council's [YouTube page](#) in English and Spanish. One video explains how to go about diagnosing lactose intolerance and the other shares strategies to help manage lactose intolerance. Midwest Dairy Council encourages you to visit the YouTube page and explore these resources as a great way to teach about keeping dairy in the diet while being lactose intolerant. Midwest Dairy Council developed these resources to equip you to better educate your clients and patients. Please find ways to add them to your go-to resources when doing presentations, lunch and learns, or one on one education. For more resources like this, [subscribe](#) to Midwest Dairy Council's monthly nutrition e-newsletter.

Kansas Health Statistics Reports Soliciting Data Articles

*by Greg Crawford, Director, Vital Statistics Data Analysis,
Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE*



The Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics (BEPHI) regularly publishes the [Kansas Health Statistics Report](#) (KHSR). The KHSR mission is to inform health departments, hospitals, legislators, and the public about public health findings based on the use of data available to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Many of the department's epidemiologists and research analysts author articles.

Data sources have included vital events, hospital discharges, survey data, and Medicaid. If the data/findings can help inform public knowledge of health outcomes and population health, almost any topic is possible in KHSR.

BEPHI recognizes there are a number of local data activities that would serve as the basis of a KHSR article. The bureau is soliciting interest and general submissions of articles. If you have recently published an article in a peer-reviewed journal, KHSR can be used to publicize the availability of the article.

KHSR is peer-edited and published quarterly. Articles not exceeding 1,500 words with no more than three tables or charts are sought. The general writing style of the publication follows the style guidelines of the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Publication guidelines are available on request. BEPHI can't guarantee every article will be published and reserves the right to edit for clarity and consistency with style guidelines.

KHSR is published every February, May, August and November. The submission deadline is the 15th of the month prior to the month of issuance. Articles can be sent to the attention of Greg Crawford at gcrawford@kdheks.gov. Past KHSR issues are available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/phi/khsr.html>.

Kansas Local Health Departments Continue to Work Towards Accreditation

*by Cristi Cain, Director, Local Public Health Program and Accreditation, KDHE
Katie Mahuron, Wichita State University's Center for Public Health Initiatives*



The participants in the Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project (KARP) continue to actively engage and work towards accreditation. As a part of the KARP program, participants are offered the opportunity for a training on accreditation to be delivered at their health department. The training is tailored to meet the needs of the agency. It is delivered by Sonja

Armbruster, a trained Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) site visitor.

In January, both Harvey County and Reno County had accreditation orientation trainings at their all-staff meetings. The meetings provided an opportunity for all staff to learn more about the accreditation process and identify linkages between their daily work and the PHAB Standards. The training also laid a foundation for increased staff ownership of the activities needed to prepare as well as building on existing momentum surrounding accreditation within the agencies. Harvey County had a county commissioner participate in the training. If you are interested in learning more about KARP or accreditation preparation training, please contact Sonja Armbruster at Sonja.Armbruster@wichita.edu.

Harvey County Accreditation Training



Reno County Accreditation Training



Kansas Cancer Plan in Development

by the Bureau of Health Promotion, KDHE



The Kansas Cancer Partnership (KCP) is conducting strategic planning to update the state cancer plan for 2017 - 2021. Workgroups recently reviewed past objectives and made recommendations for a new objective related to childhood cancer. At the January 22 meeting in Emporia, KCP workgroups started work on evidence-based strategies for successfully achieving objectives. If you would like to participate in this process, please contact Barbara VanCortlandt at 785-296-8126 or bvancortlandt@kdheks.gov.

February is American Heart Month and February 6 is National Wear Red Day



Heart Disease is not just a man's disease. Heart disease and stroke kill 1 in 3 women, yet it's 80% preventable. Check out the [American Heart Association's News Room](#) to access information and resources to share during [American Heart Month](#).

Funding Opportunities

Accountable Health Communities (AHC) Model Funding Opportunity Non Binding Letter - Letter Deadline February 8



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is currently accepting applications for an effort that seeks to address the gap between clinical and social needs for beneficiaries.

Over a five-year period, CMS will implement and test promising service delivery approaches that link beneficiaries to community services in five core areas: housing instability and quality, food insecurity, utility needs, interpersonal violence, and transportation needs. Through cooperative agreement awards ranging from \$1 million to 4.5 million, up to 44 bridge organizations will partner with state Medicaid agencies, clinical delivery sites and community service providers to test three scalable approaches that link clinical and community services. Rural providers and organizations with knowledge of beneficiaries needs and longstanding networks of community care are in a unique position to take part in the model and help determine the impact of social needs on health care quality and cost. There are various tracks within the AHC model, all of which could be a good fit for rural community organizations. However, we would encourage rural organizations with an interest in the model to take a close look at Track 3.

Applicants must submit a non-binding letter of intent by February 8 at http://innovationgov.force.com/ahc?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery. Applications must be submitted by March 31.

For more information go to https://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/ahcm/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery or send an email to AccountableHealthCommunities@cms.hhs.gov.



Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Program Grants Available - Deadline March 4

The Federal Office of Rural Health Policy is pleased to announce the release of the FY 2016 Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Program, announcement number: HRSA-16-019. Application materials are available at: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=280808>.

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to provide support to rural primary care providers for implementation of quality improvement activities. There are several changes to the program this year including alignment of the project with Delivery System Reform (DSR), demonstrating an improvement in health status, and showing a reduction in emergency department visits due to chronic disease. Organizations will identify a patient population to track over the three-year project period, implement an evidence-based quality improvement model to provide a framework for improving care delivery, and use health information technology (HIT) to collect, report, and utilize information on cost and quality.

Previous grantees have shown significant improvement in management of patients with chronic conditions, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease. For example, a current grantee established a transitions care program for patients with multiple chronic conditions, resulting in reductions in emergency department use and hospital readmissions. To learn more about currently funded grant projects, please refer to the Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement Grant Program Directory: <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/pdf/2013-2016-small-provider-quality-improvement-grantee-directory.pdf>.

Applicants may request up to \$200,000 per year for up to three years. The deadline to apply is March 4. Applications must be submitted electronically at www.grants.gov. For further questions on this funding opportunity, please contact Ann Ferrero at aferrero@hrsa.gov or 301-443-3999.



Kansas Department of Health and Environment Aid To Local Funding - Deadline March 15

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Aid to Local SFY 2017 grant process is now live on Catalyst, the agency's grant application and performance management system. Applications must be submitted by March 15. Please see the Aid to Local [webpage](#) for more information.



Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) Grant Applications Now Open - Deadline March 15

The Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) grant program provides funding and technical assistance to communities to address chronic disease risk reduction through evidence-based strategies that impact tobacco use, physical activity, nutrition and chronic disease self-management.

Eligible applicants are local health departments or organizations they designate to serve as the project lead on behalf of the community. A consortium of counties may apply together under one application.

View this [map](#) to see which counties are current grantees. For more information about the CDRR grant application process visit http://www.kdheks.gov/doc_lib/index.html.

Call for Pilot Grant Proposals - Community Outreach/Education Grants - Deadline April 3



Funding up to \$15,000 is available for two types of projects from the University of Iowa Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health:

- Community Outreach/Education Grants: The goal of this grant is to enhance delivery of evidence-based agricultural health programs. Community projects are typically submitted by non-profit community entities delivering agricultural safety and health programs.
- Academic/Scholarly Research Grants: The goal of this grant is to create new agricultural safety and health knowledge and to assess and promote best safety and health practices. Scholarly research projects are typically submitted by students, staff, and faculty of academic institutions. Research projects will be judged for scientific merit.

Priority will be given to projects addressing emerging issues, vulnerable populations, and aging of the agricultural workforce. More information and the forms can be found on the Pilot Grant website at <http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/gpcah/pilot-grant-program/>. Application deadline is April 3rd.

Questions can be directed to Jenna L Gibbs, Research Coordinator, Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health at jenna-gibbs@uiowa.edu

RWJF Evidence for Action - Call for Proposals - No Deadline for Submission



This national program from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, aims to provide individuals, organizations, communities, policymakers and researchers with the empirical evidence needed to address the key determinants of health encompassed in the [Culture of Health Action Framework](#). The program encourages and supports creative, rigorous research on the impact of innovative programs, policies and partnerships on health and well-being, and on novel approaches to measuring health determinants and outcomes. [Proposals](#) are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Training and Conference Announcements

2016 Schedule Meetings and Conferences Impacting Local Public Health Agencies

[Click Here to Access the Calendar](#)

Exhibitor Registration for the 2016 Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference is Now Open



Exhibitor registration for the 2016 Kansas Governor's Public Health Conference is now open. Go to www.wichita.edu/conferences/publichealth for more information on exhibiting at the conference April 27, or click the logo to view the exhibitor brochure. If you have exhibitor questions contact James Brewster, Conference Coordinator at 316-978-6752 or james.brewster@wichita.edu. Participant registration coming soon!

FHSU Facilitates Eight-Week University Grant Writing Certification Program - February 11



This is an introduction to the Fort Hays State University (FHSU) grant proposal writing course, although several highly experienced proposal writers have found great value in the course as a review and refresher course. The areas of focus will be the key parts of the most sophisticated type of proposals: title page, abstract, statement of need, goal, objectives, procedures, budget, qualifications, evaluation, sustainability, dissemination, sources cited and appendix. Ten CEUs and a grant writing certificate may be earned through Fort Hays State University's distance learning, no travel course. There is a fee for this online education opportunity which is offered three times each year. The next course begins February 11. [Register for the next class here](#) or to request more information, email sociology@fhsu.edu or call 785-628-5840.

2015 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium Review - February 27, 2016



Registration is now open to attend the [2015 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium Review](#), February 27, 2016 at the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel in Overland Park. This symposium is directed towards physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals involved in breast cancer prevention treatment and survivorship. Speakers at this conference will integrate new information presented at the 2015 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium; into existing paradigms. Discussion will be relevant to researchers, physicians, and physician extenders who care for patients with breast cancer or those at risk for the disease. Debu Tripathy, MD, Professor and Chair, Department of Breast Medical Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center is the invited speaker. The Symposium is sponsored by University of Kansas Cancer Center and the University of Kansas Medical Center Continuing Education.

WSU Offers Online Badges for the Public Health Workforce



Wichita State University's (WSU) new badge program, which launched August 2015, kicked off with the first of six badges aimed at public health professionals. The Care of Population Health Professions, Badge 1 will continue to be offered in the spring. In addition, WSU will roll out the rest of the Care of Population badges throughout the upcoming semester: Badge 3 will be available February 9, and Badges 4, 5 & 6 March 9.

The Care of Population badges are tied directly to Tier 1 of the Public Health Core Competencies and provide important knowledge for any professional working in the public health industry. At \$100 each, these badges are very affordable and have already been approved for 7.5 contact hours for both nursing and social work re-licensure. Other licensed professionals may self-submit this course to their licensing board for contact hour approval.

In addition to receiving contact hours, professionals who successfully complete Care of Population badges will receive 0.5 of a credit hour that will appear on a transcript indicating that academic work was successfully completed in a short course. This is especially useful for those who are planning to or are already working through the RN to BSN program at WSU as these are considered credit courses and will count toward their degree.

Learn more about the badge program and how to register through KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, WSU: HP 570BA, Care of Population Health Professions Badge 1, Course ID# 1059105 or go to www.wichita.edu/badges.

Personal Protective Equipment – Training, Use and Practice for Health and Medical Personnel Dates Scheduled Through June of 2016



Make plans to attend one of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment sponsored trainings on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The course is presented by the Kansas National Guard, 73rd Civil Support Team and is designed to provide attendees with information and ample time for hands on practice of donning and doffing. Course content focus is on highly infectious disease events. Specific course information and registration for the PPE training is on KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, course ID# 1056977. Space in each class is limited, so mark your calendar and register now to attend. There is no fee to attend this course.

The following are the dates and locations scheduled for the training. For detailed course information and address for training venue, go to KS-TRAIN.

- February 16, 2016 – Liberal
- February 17, 2016 – Garden City
- February 18, 2016 – Dodge City (location TBD)
- March 8, 2016 – Pittsburg
- March 9, 2016 – Parsons
- March 10, 2016 – Chanute
- April 13, 2016 – Hutchinson (location TBD)
- April 14, 2016 – Hoisington (location TBD)
- May 17, 2016 – Marysville (location TBD)
- May 18, 2016 – Abilene (location BD)
- June 8, 2016 – Oakley (location TBD)

If you have questions, or need additional information, contact Lisa Williams, lawilliams@kdheks.gov or 785-296-1984.

Preparedness Summit 2016 - April 19 - 22



Resilience – adaptation in the face of adversity – is often the difference between a community that can survive and thrive after a disaster, and one that struggles over years to recover. In 2013, the Rockefeller Foundation created 100 Resilient Cities – an organization dedicated to helping cities around the world build resilience to the social, economic, and physical challenges that are an increasing part of the 21st century. The Rockefeller Foundation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are now working together to build a vision for resilient communities. The 2016 Preparedness Summit's opening plenary will explore public health's integral role in making this goal of more resilient communities a reality. HUD's Marion McFadden and the 100 Resilient Cities' Andrew Salkin will join Dr. Nicole Lurie from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response to discuss their programs and public health's vital place in the federal government's community resilience efforts. Click the logo to learn more about the conference in Dallas and [register](#). Also, Kansas's own, Fred the Preparedness Dog will be giving a demonstration session at the Summit.

Preparedness Program Launches Chempack Course



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Preparedness Program recently launched an online course in KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, KDHE: The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS): Kansas Chempack, Course ID# 1060191 for the preparedness workforce. By the end of the two-hour course learners will be able to successfully:

- Define the CHEMPACK Program
- List the six types of chemical warfare agents
- Identify the signs and symptoms of mild, moderate and severe nerve agent poisoning
- Identify the five products in the CHEMPACK container
- Explain what each product in the container is used for
- Identify five of the responsibilities of a CHEMPACK cache location



Achieving Health Equity in Kansas: Where Do We Go From Here - March 31

The educational activity, Achieving Health Equity in Kansas: Where Do We Go from Here, will be held March 31, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Kansas Leadership Center in Wichita. This symposium is co-provided/co-sponsored by University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas Health Foundation and University of Kansas Medical Center Continuing Education & Professional Development. Course Director is Tracie Collins, MD, MPH, Chair and Professor, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita.

Course sponsors have convened leaders from around the country and within the state of Kansas to address topics on the current state of health disparities and innovative approaches to reduce health inequities in urban and rural populations. The symposium will serve as a foundation for future statewide efforts to reduce health inequities among Kansas and improve the overall health of our residents. Following this symposium and other planning efforts, the goal will be to develop a Center that has ongoing efforts towards improving the health of our state residents.

Objectives: At the completion of this conference, participants should be able to:

1. Describe the leading causes of death and disability in Kansas by race/ethnicity, gender, geography, age, and socio-economic status.
2. Identify innovative research and health promotion efforts, conducted within the past five years, which have reduced health disparities in communities within Kansas and around the country.
3. Examine models of community partnerships that reduce health disparities.
4. Interpret and apply models of interdisciplinary and inter-professional collaborations that promote health equity and reduce health disparities.

Continuing education credit is available with registration required. To register or view more information, visit www.kumc.edu/ce. If you have any questions regarding the conference, please contact the Continuing Education Office at 913-588-4488 or via email at contactce@kumc.edu.

You. Lead. Now. Leadership Development - Monthly Live Session Opportunities



Designed for those at every level, from all sectors who are ready for a transformational leadership development experience. You. Lead. Now. is open to anyone interested in improving their effectiveness to make progress on difficult issues in their community, however you define community.

This impactful three-day program developed and lead by the [Kansas Leadership Center](http://www.kansasleadershipcenter.org), will introduce a leadership framework practiced by thousands of alumni across Kansas as well as cover important Public Health Competencies. Participants will receive a certificate upon completion of this program. You. Lead. Now. is a three-day leadership development experience during which you will learn new skills and gain new knowledge and insight based on the Kansas Leadership Center principles: Leadership is an activity, not a position; Anyone can lead, anytime, anywhere; It starts with you and must engage others; Your purpose must be clear and It's risky.

The Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) equips people with the ability to make lasting change for the common good. KLC is different in the field of leadership development with its focus on leadership as an activity, not a role or position. Open to anyone seeking to move the needle of tough challenges within their community, however it's defined. KLC envisions more Kansans sharing responsibility for acting together in pursuit of the common good.

You. Lead. Now. will provide:

- Knowledge to create change within an organization.
- Skills to intervene more effectively to help a team or small group make progress.
- Insight into your unique, personal opportunity to make a difference, to lead now.

You. Lead. Now. is offered once each month in 2016, February through November, at the Kansas Leadership Center & Kansas Health Foundation Conference Center in downtown Wichita. To learn more and register for this educational event go to KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1060027.

Your Leadership Edge: A KLC Experience



Your Leadership Edge (YLE) serves as a headquarters where you can access short videos, discussion boards, Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) content and video chats aimed at helping you make progress on your most important leadership challenges. At Your Leadership Edge: A KLC Experience, we know change doesn't just happen if you wish for it while clicking your heels. Instead, change happens if enough people exercise leadership. YLE is a subscription portal that anyone can access from anywhere around the world, unless you don't have a subscription or an internet connection. The portal gives you access to the Kansas Leadership Center resources and teachings, both online and in-person. Your Leadership Edge operates as a subsidiary of the Kansas Leadership Center with all profit directed back to the mission work of the organization.

To learn more about Your Leadership Edge and to register for the education offerings go to KS-TRAIN at <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID# 1060353. There is a \$200 fee associated with this program. KLC hopes you choose to take advantage of this amazing experience. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Janell Linnebur, Program Assistant at 316-712-4953 or email her at jlinnebur@kansasleadershipcenter.org.

News and Resources



Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be February 23. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

National Public Health Week 2016 Campaign Underway

from the APHA Website

HEALTHIEST NATION 2030

Join the American Public Health Association (APHA) for National Public Health 2016. This year's campaign will occur April 4 - 10 with the theme Healthiest Nation 2030. Learn more by signing up to receive updates at www.nphw.org and following @NPHW on Twitter. Mark your calendars now for the NPHW 2016 Twitter Chat. This event will take a place on Wednesday, April 6, 2 p.m. [RSVP here](#). More information on this and other events will be available soon.

Building Access to and Understanding of Public Health Laws



Knowledge and practical understanding of the laws that govern public health practice are critical. In spring 2014, researchers set out to systematically collect and code state and local laws that govern public health practice in the state of Nebraska and evaluate knowledge and awareness among the public health workforce. Researchers created a policy surveillance portal called "LawAtlas" and baseline and six-month follow-up surveys to determine the impact on the public health workforce regarding their understanding and comfort level with these laws. [View the recording](#) for an inside look at the policy surveillance tool, to share opportunities for using the tool and to discuss the impact on the workforce in Nebraska.

Concussion Safety Starts with You



For more than a decade, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Injury Center has helped advance the public health response to concussion. Through the [HEADS UP](#) campaign, CDC puts concussion educational materials into the hands of coaches, parents, athletes, and school and health care professionals nationwide. All of us—parents, coaches, athletes, teammates, spectators, and others—play a role in creating a culture of concussion safety.

- Create a customized [HEADS UP website](#) and/or [HEADS UP handouts and posters](#) with your child's or teen's team, sport, or school colors and logo.
- Download CDC's free [HEADS UP Concussion app](#).
- Take a HEADS UP concussion [online training](#).
- [Read](#) "Sports culture must change to reduce head injuries" blog from Injury Center Director, Dr. Deb Houry.

Step Counts More Reliable Than Other Activity Measures



When it comes to patient-generated health data, a new study finds variable validity in activities measured by wearable activity-tracking devices. In general, consumer activity trackers produce more accurate readings for step-counting than measures such as calorie counts or sleep time. Researchers from the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health and RTI International conducted a systematic review of 22 published articles covering the ability of Fitbit and Jawbone, two popular activity trackers, to measure steps, distance, physical activity, calories and sleep. [The study report was published online Dec. 18 by the International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity.](#)

Strategy Aims to Improve Health Status of World's Women, Kids: Targets Unveiled



Setting "ambitious but achievable targets" to improve health and well-being, a new global strategy aims to serve as a road map to ending all preventable deaths among women, children and adolescents. Read more in this article from [The Nation's Health](#) newspaper. "It is so basic and so simple, to want a life where you are not discriminated against, where you have equal access to health services, education and employment opportunities," said World Health Organization Director-general Margaret Chan, MD, MPH. "And yet it seems so difficult to achieve. I believe that the world only changes when we are inspired to make those changes. I believe that this generation of adolescents and young people will make those changes."

CDC: This is What Kept Us Up at Night in 2015



Ebola kept the nation's scientists up at night in 2015, according to the list released by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Their [2015: What Kept Us Up At Night and What Will Keep Us Busy in 2016 report](#) laid out the six threats the CDC will make a priority in the next year are Ebola, antibiotic resistance, global health security, smoking and tobacco use, prescription drug overdose and lab safety.



Oral Health Kansas Drink Display Reservation Information

Reserve a drink display for this year as soon as you can. Our reservation slots fill up fast! Our month of February is booked! But we have other months available. The drink display is free for you to use and shipping costs are reimbursed. To reserve a drink display, email Oral Health Kansas at info@oralhealthkansas.org



Asthma Rate Stops Climbing in Some U.S. Kids

Childhood asthma rates appear to have stopped rising among many U.S. groups, but not among the poorest kids or children aged ten and older, a study suggests. Overall, asthma prevalence among kids under 18 had been rising for decades, until it peaked at 9.7 percent in 2009. Then it held steady until 2013, when it dropped to 8.3 percent from 9.3 percent the previous year, researchers reported online December 28, 2015 in the journal *Pediatrics*. "International data on asthma prevalence over time shows that trends appear to be leveling off in many countries, and suggests that the trend in the United States seems to be following a general pattern," said lead study author Dr. Lara Akinbami of the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics in Hyattsville, Maryland.

Prescriptions Continue After Painkiller ODs



Even as overdoses from narcotic prescription painkiller reach record levels in the U. S., a [new report](#) finds that most people who survive such events continue to be prescribed the drugs by their doctors. The new study found that this happened in more than 90 percent of cases, and patients who continued on drugs like OxyContin, Vicodin and Percocet after an overdose had twice the odds of overdosing again within the next two years.

What Can We Do Better? Trying to Make the Nation's Food System Safer in 2016



U.S. consumers could be forgiven for wondering about the state of the nation's food safety system. Ice cream giant Blue Bell Creameries issued a nationwide recall last year after its products were linked to a listeria outbreak that hospitalized nearly a dozen people and contributed to three deaths. A salmonella outbreak involving cucumbers imported from Mexico sickened more than 800 people and killed four. In the fall, tainted chicken salad from Costco sickened 19 people across seven states, and Chipotle has taken a beating for a series of E. coli outbreaks from Massachusetts to California that have left scores of people ill. The [Washington Post](#) provides thoughts from food safety experts on possible reasons for the recent food borne outbreaks.

U.S. May Lack Resources to Treat Kids in Disasters



In the event of a natural disaster, epidemic or terrorist attack, the U.S. may not have enough medical resources to aid affected children, according to a report from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Children are particularly vulnerable to illness and injuries during these emergency situations and their distinct needs – such as special drug formulations or dosing and pint-size medical devices – mean supplies set aside for adults may not work for them. To start fixing the problem, the U.S. needs more investment in treatments that are appropriate for children, including research to develop age-appropriate therapies as well as investments to increase the nation's stockpile of remedies already made for kids, according to the report from [AAP's Disaster Preparedness Advisory Council](#).

Millions of Teens Being Targeted by E-Cigarette Advertising, CDC Says



Massive amounts of [e-cigarette advertising](#) on TV, in print, online and at retail outlets is being aimed squarely at America's teenagers, a report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says. Tens of millions of dollars are being spent by makers of e-cigarettes to target teens, and it's working, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says; around seven in 10 middle and high school students — more than 18 million teenagers — are exposed to e-cigarette advertising. The abstract for CDC's research can be found in the [Journal of the American Medical Association](#).

Interim Guidelines for Pregnant Women During a Zika Virus Outbreak: U.S. 2016



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has developed [interim guidelines](#) for health care providers in the United States caring for pregnant women during a Zika virus outbreak. These guidelines include recommendations for pregnant women considering travel to an area with Zika virus transmission and recommendations for screening, testing, and management of pregnant returning travelers. Updates on areas with ongoing Zika virus transmission are available [online](#). Health care providers should ask all pregnant women about recent travel. Pregnant women with a history of travel to an area with Zika virus transmission and who report two or more symptoms consistent with Zika virus disease, acute onset of fever, maculopapular rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis, during or within two weeks of travel, or who have ultrasound findings of fetal microcephaly or intracranial calcifications, should be tested for Zika virus infection in consultation with their state or local health department. Testing is not indicated for women without a travel history to an area with Zika virus transmission.

Legal Innovations to Advance a Culture of Health



In the current issue of the [Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics](#), Volume 43 Issue 4, Network for Public Health Law colleagues provide examples of how law can be used as a tool to help advance a culture of health across multiple arenas, including modern laws that promote healthy and safe low-income housing, telemedicine reimbursement, paid sick and safe time, healthy food and beverages, reduced smoking rates, child vaccinations, universal pre-k, adolescents' healthy sleep, overdose prevention and medical-legal partnerships.

Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

Barton

- [Public Health Nurse / Immunizations](#)

Geary County

- [Accountant](#)
- [Nurse Practitioner \(APRN\)](#)

Lawrence - Douglas County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

Reno County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)

Riley County Health Department

- [WIC Dietitian](#)

Saline County Health Department

- [Home Health Care Administrator \(RN\)](#)
- [Maternal Child Health Healthy State Home Visitor](#)

Shawnee County Health Agency

- [RN MCH Outreach \(Health Agency\)](#)

Sedgwick County

- [Blood Lead Specialist](#)
- [Part-time Nurse, FIMR Chart Abstractor](#)
- [Part-time Breastfeeding Peer Counselor](#)
- [Public Health Nurse II/Senior Social Worker](#)

Wyandotte County

- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Green Guide](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[Oral Health Newsletter](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

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